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Dated: May 17, 2004

Signature:

(Alisa M. Haggemo)

Docket No.: 60680-1823
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Thomas Stong et al.

Application No.: 10/751,347

Confirmation No.:

Filed: December 31, 2003

Art Unit: N/A

For: WEAR RESISTANT COATING FOR
PISTON RINGS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

A copy of each reference on the PTO/SB/08 is attached.

A concise explanation of relevance of the items listed on form PTO/SB/08 is given.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any

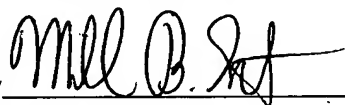
patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 18-0013, under Order No. 60680-1823. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: May 17, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)
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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/751,347-Conf. #1311
				Filing Date	December 31, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Thomas Stong
				Art Unit	N/A
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	60680-1823

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	US-3,556,747	01-19-1971	Hyde et al.	
	AB	US-4,039,399	08-02-1977	Wallace et al.	
	AC	US-4,123,072	10-31-1978	Sharpe	
	AD	US-4,208,845	06-24-1980	Sharpe	
	AE	US-4,334,927	06-15-1982	Hyde et al.	
	AF	US-4,592,964	06-03-1986	Büran et al.	
	AG	US-4,612,256	09-16-1986	Neuhäuser et al.	
	AH	US-4,756,841	07-12-1988	Buran et al.	
	AI	US-5,126,104	06-30-1992	Anand et al.	
	AJ	US-5,547,203	08-20-1996	DANA CORPORATION	
	AK	US-5,592,927	01-14-1997	Zaluzec et al.	
	AL	US-5,605,741	02-25-1997	DANA CORPORATION	
	AM	US-5,702,769	12-30-1997	Peters	
	AN	US-5,713,129	02-03-1998	Rastegar et al.	
	AO	US-5,756,150	05-26-1998	Mori et al.	
	AP	US-5,763,106	06-09-1998	Blanchard et al.	
	AQ	US-5,713,324-B1	02-03-1998	Frame et al.	
	AR	US-5,773,734	06-30-1998	DANA CORPORATION	
	AS	US-5,863,618	01-26-1999	Jarosinski et al.	
	AT	US-5,906,896	05-25-1999	Jackson et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	CA	Dana Perfect Circle Division Material Specification, No. PCF-284, Issued July 8, 1999	
	CB	Dana Perfect Circle Division Material Specification, No. PCHP-2, Issued January 10, 2000	

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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